GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:352
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2015
Full Fare for Children
Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Sathyabama Smt. V.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to change its rules and charge full ticket fare for children between the ages of five and twelve years if a berth/seat is sought for them in the reserved class;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this rule is also applicable in the case of unreserved tickets and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the revenue likely to be earned by the Railways as a result thereof and the time by which a decision is likely to be made effective; and

(e) whether this move is likely to affect the common train passengers and if so, the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS

)SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 352 BY SHRIMATI V. SATHYA BAMA AND SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 23.12.2015 REGARDING FULL FARE FOR CHILDREN
(a) Yes, Madam.
(b) Instructions have already been issued that in case of children of age 5 years and above but below the age of 12 years for whom full berth (in reserved class) is sought at the time of reservation, full adult fare shall be charged.
However at the time of reservation if berth is not sought for the children of age 5 years and above but below the age of 12 years, then half of basic adult fare will continue to be charged subject to minimum distance for charge. The change is expected to provide the following benefits:-
i. Potential of adding 20 million additional berths in a year for passengers without any additional input.
ii. Upto 20 million additional passengers, including senior citizen and women, could travel by train on confirmed berths every year which is equivalent to about 20,000 additional trains in a year/54 additional trains in a day.
iii. Optimal utilization of available accommodation.
iv. Potential of generating additional revenue for the Railways.
This will help in augmenting passenger transport capacity of the railways till such time the approved line capacity works are completed to facilitate running of additional trains.
(c) No, Madam.
(d) The additional revenue expected to be earned by Railways due to revision in the child fare would be about `525 Crores in a year. The revision in child fare shall be implemented by 22.04.2016.

(e) No change with regard to child fare for unreserved class have been made. Therefore, there shall be no effect on the common train passengers. The number of child passenger who availed child fare in unreserved class during 2014-15 was approximately 6.20 crores; for this category the revised rules shall not be applicable. The revised rules would be applicable only for number of child passengers who opt to avail berths on child fare in reserved class. This number during 2014-15 was approximately 2.11 crores and the revised rules will be applicable to this category. The passengers will have option to opt or not opt for berth for their children. In case passengers do not opt for berths full fare shall not be charged and only half of the adult fare shall continued to be charged.
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